

Serial No. 10/081,156 . . . . . Page 2

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (previously presented) A reusable fresh masonry wall protection device for rapidly protecting a newly laid block or brick wall from inclement weather and providing temporary reinforcement for the upper layer of newly laid blocks or bricks,  
5 said newly laid wall having a width W comprising:

a thin plastic channel element having a top panel member and a pair of parallel side panel members,

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10 said top panel member having width greater than W and a smooth, flat inner face which is adapted to engage the topmost surface of said newly laid block or brick wall,

15 said parallel side panel members being springy and angled inwardly so that they engage the newly laid block or brick wall, and have lower ends which angle outwardly to form a guideway for installing said protection device on said newly laid block or brick wall.

2. (Currently Amended) A reusable fresh masonry wall protection device for rapidly protecting a newly laid block or

Serial No. 10/081,156 . . . . . Page 3

brick wall from inclement weather, said newly laid wall having a width W comprising:

5           a [[thin]] plastic channel element having a top panel member and a pair of parallel side panel members,

              said top panel member having width greater than W and a smooth, flat inner face which is adapted to engage the topmost surface of said newly laid block or brick wall,

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              said parallel side panel members being springy and angled inwardly so that they engage the newly laid block or brick wall, and have lower ends which angle outwardly to form a guideway for installing said protection device on said newly laid block or brick wall and wherein said top panel member is provided with a plurality of spaced rebar punchouts.

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3.   (Previously presented)   The reusable fresh masonry wall protection device defined in claim 2 wherein said rebar punchouts are elongated along the length of said top panel member and selected from a pull tab with score lines and a series of starburst score lines which are punchable through.

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4.   (Currently amended) The fresh masonry protection device defined in ~~claim 1~~ claim 2 wherein said top panel member includes

Serial No. 10/081,156 . . . . . Page 4

a pair of insulated electrical wires for supplying electrical energy to heating elements or light bulbs at spaced intervals along the length of said freshly laid wall.

5. (cancelled)

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6. (Previously presented) The reusable fresh masonry protection device defined in claim 1 wherein one end of said channel element is provided with score lines for adapting the ends of said devices to cover corners and other wall angulations.

5 7. (original) A fresh masonry protection device for rapidly protecting a newly laid block or brick wall from inclement weather comprising:

an extruded channel device having a top panel member and a pair of parallel side panel members,

5 said top panel member having a smooth, flat inner face which is adapted to engage the topmost surface of said newly laid block or brick wall,

said parallel side panel members being resilient and springy and angled inwardly so that they grip the newly laid  
10 block or brick wall,

said top panel member having a plurality of punchouts for rebar at predetermined intervals along the length of said top panel member.

Serial No. 10/081,156 . . . . . Page 5

8. (Previously presented) The fresh masonry protection device defined in claim 7 wherein said top panel member includes a pair of insulated electrical wires for supplying electrical energy to heating elements or light bulbs at spaced intervals along the length of said freshly laid wall.

9. (Previously presented) The fresh masonry wall protection device defined in claim 7 wherein said top panel member is wider than the width of said newly laid block or brick wall and said side panels have ends that are angled outwardly to form guideways for installing said protection device onto said newly laid block or brick wall.

10. (original) A fresh masonry protection device for rapidly protecting a newly laid block or brick wall from inclement weather comprising:

a channel element having a top panel member and a pair of parallel side panel members,

said top panel member having a smooth, flat inner face which is adapted to engage the topmost surface of said newly laid block or brick wall,

said parallel side panel members being springy and angled inwardly so that they grip the newly laid block or brick wall,

said side panel members having tip ends which are angled outwardly to form an installation guideway,

Serial No. 10/081,156 . . . . . Page 6

said top panel member having punchouts for rebar at predetermined intervals along the length of said top panel member.

11. (original) The fresh masonry wall protection device defined in claim 10 wherein said top panel member includes a pair of insulated electrical wires for supplying electrical energy to heating elements or light bulbs at spaced intervals along the length of said freshly laid wall.

12. (Previously presented) The fresh masonry wall protection device defined in claim 10 wherein said top panel member is wider than the width of said newly laid block or brick wall and said side panels have ends that are angled outwardly to form guideways for installing said protection device onto said newly laid block or brick wall.

13. (Previously presented) A method for rapidly protecting a newly laid block or brick wall from inclement weather and providing temporary reinforcement for said top row, said newly laid block or brick wall having oppositely facing sides and a top row of blocks or bricks, said top row having an end block or brick, and providing temporary reinforcement for said top row comprising:

(a) providing reusable extruded channel member having a top panel member and a pair of parallel side panel members, said parallel side panel members being springy and angled inwardly so

Serial No. 10/081,156 . . . . . Page 7

10 that they simultaneously engage said oppositely facing sides of the newly laid block or brick wall when in place on the wall and have angled ends forming a guideway for receiving the top row of said newly laid block or brick wall,

ant. C1 15 (b) engaging said sides of said wall adjacent the top with one end of said guideway and expanding the distance between the engaging side panel members by the width of said wall,

(c) then pivoting said channel member about the point of engagement of said side panel members with said sides in a generally downward direction to seat one end of said channel member on said wall, and essentially align said channel member with said wall, and

(d) then seating the remainder of said channel member on the top of said wall by progressively pressing downwardly on said top panel member beginning at said one end.

14. (Currently amended) ~~The method defined in Claim 13~~ A method for rapidly protecting a newly laid block or brick wall from inclement weather and providing temporary reinforcement for said top row, said newly laid block or brick wall having oppositely facing sides and a top row of blocks or bricks, said top row having an end block or brick, and providing temporary reinforcement for said top row comprising:

(a) providing reusable extruded channel member having a top panel member and a pair of parallel side panel members, said

Serial No. 10/081,156 . . . . . Page 8

10 parallel side panel members being springy and angled inwardly so that they simultaneously engage said oppositely facing sides of the newly laid block or brick wall when in place on the wall and have angled ends forming a guideway for receiving the top row of said newly laid block or brick wall.

15 (b) engaging said sides of said wall adjacent the top with one end of said guideway and expanding the distance between the engaging side panel members by the width of said wall,

20 (c) then pivoting said channel member about the point of engagement of said side panel members with said sides in a generally downward direction to seat one end of said channel member on said wall, and essentially align said channel member with said wall, and

25 (d) then seating the remainder of said channel member on the top of said wall by progressively pressing downwardly on said top panel member beginning at said one end, and

including repeating steps (a) - (d) at least one further time in overlapping relationship.

15. (Currently amended) A reusable fresh masonry wall protection device for rapidly protecting from inclement weather and temporarily reinforcing the top layer of a newly laid block or brick wall, having a width W and oppositely facing sides, comprising:

Serial No. 10/081,156 . . . . . Page 9

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10 a [[thin]] plastic shell element having a top panel member and  
a pair of parallel side panel members, said top panel member has a  
width which is wider than the width of the newly laid block or  
brick wall and the lateral ends of said top panel member being  
joined to said parallel side panel members, said parallel side  
member being springy and angled inwardly so that they engage said  
oppositely facing sides of said newly laid block or brick wall and  
have lower ends which angle outwardly to form a guideway for  
installing said protection device on said newly laid block or brick  
15 wall.

5 16. (Currently amended) A reusable fresh masonry wall  
protection device for rapidly protecting from inclement weather and  
temporarily reinforcing a newly laid block or brick wall, said wall  
having sides and a width W, comprising a [[thin]] plastic channel  
element, said thin plastic channel element having a top panel  
member which is wider than the thickness of said wall W and a pair  
of parallel depending side panel members, said top panel member  
having a plurality of substantially equally spaced holes therein  
for rebar passage and said parallel side panel members being  
10 coupled to the lateral ends of said top panel member and being  
springy and angle inwardly so that they engage said sides of said  
newly laid block or brick wall and have lower ends which angle  
outwardly to form a guideway for installing said protection device  
on said newly laid block or brick wall.



Serial No. 10/081,156 . . . . . Page 10

17. (Currently amended) A method of rapidly protecting a newly laid block or brick wall having oppositely facing sides and a top row of bricks or blocks, from inclement weather and providing temporary reinforcement to said top row comprising:

5 providing reusable first and second channel elements, each said channel element having a top panel member which is wider than said top row and a pair of parallel side panel members which are connected to the lateral ends of said top panel member and angled inwardly so that they simultaneously engage said sides of said  
10 block or brick wall when in place,

expanding the distance between one end of said side panel members of the first channel element greater than the width of said wall and fitting said channel member element about the point of engagement of said side panel members with said wall in a generally  
15 downward direction to seat one end of said channel member element on said wall and essentially align said channel member with said wall, and

then seating the remainder of said channel member element on said top wall by progressively pressing downwardly on said top  
20 panel member beginning at said one end, and

repeating the above steps at least one further time in overlapping relationship with respect to said second channel element.